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County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Marc Steinorth California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 53 (Steinorth) - as introduced December 5, 2016 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Steinorth:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 53, legislation that would provide an opportunity for individuals who have never owned a home and those who have been priced out of the market to save towards the purchase of a home.

AB 53 provides prospective homebuyers with the ability to create Homeowner Savings Accounts, which would let them deduct up to \$20,000 deposited in the account each year on their taxes. This is a cost-effective way to reduce the substantial financial barrier to new homebuyers, as it does not require a new state program or ongoing subsidy.

Research has consistently shown the importance of the housing sector on the economy and the long- term social and financial benefits to individual homeowners. In addition to tangible financial benefits, homeownership brings substantial societal benefits for families, and the community as a whole.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 53. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

RÖBERT A. LOVINGOOD First District Supervisor

Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation